

specification and the drawings, as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added by the amendments made herein. Accordingly, claims 57, 59, 63-66, 68 and 72-78 are pending in the present application and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claims 57-76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunworth et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,930,474, hereinafter "Dunworth") in view of Hidary et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,778,181, hereinafter "Hidary"). In making this rejection, the Office Action took the position that Dunworth disclosed each and every element recited in the claimed invention with the exception of showing certain limitations as noted in the Office Action. The Office Action further cited Hidary for curing the deficiencies which exist in Dunworth.

As mentioned above, claims 58, 60-62, 67, 69, 70 and 71 have been cancelled without prejudice, and therefore, the rejection with respect to these claims is now moot. As for claims 57, 59, 63-66, 68, and 72-78, Applicants respectfully submit that each of these claims recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited prior art.

Claim 57 recites an information acquisition apparatus for communicating with at least one information server through an Internet. The information acquisition apparatus comprises a reading means after setting an information recording medium, for reading information stored in the set information recording medium, and an address-information acquisition means for acquiring address information automatically when the reading of the information is initiated after the information recording medium is set in the reading means. The address information indicates an address position of a homepage provided

in the information server for transmitting related information related to the information recording medium, and corresponding to the information recording medium. Furthermore, the information acquisition apparatus comprises a related-information acquisition means for accessing the homepage through the Internet based on the address information acquired by the address-information acquisition means so that the related information related to the information recording medium can be acquired from the information server.

Claim 64 recites an information acquisition apparatus substantially similar to the information acquisition apparatus recited in claim 57 with the exception that the information acquisition apparatus of claim 64 comprises a reading means for reading information stored in the set information recording medium immediately when an information recording medium is set in the reading means.

Claim 65 recites an information acquisition apparatus for communicating with at least one information server provided with related information related to an information recording medium through an Internet. The information acquisition apparatus comprises a reading means for reading information stored in the information recording medium which stores at least one music after setting the information recording medium, and an address-information acquisition means for acquiring address information when the reading of information is initiated after the information recording medium is set in the reading means. The address information indicates an address position of a homepage provided in the information server for transmitting related information related to the information recording medium, and corresponding to the information recording medium. In addition, the information acquisition apparatus comprises a related-information

acquisition means for accessing the homepage through the Internet based on the address information acquired by the address-information acquisition means, and thereby acquiring the related information from the information server. The related information includes at least one information of a list of music title, a lyric, a singer, a homepage of the singer, a lyricist, a composer, players, a title of the information recording medium, a picture of jacket of the information recording medium, and a producer of the information recording medium.

Claim 66 recites an information recording medium, in which recorded information is read out by reading means provided in an information acquisition apparatus for communicating with at least one information server including a homepage through an Internet, and which is removable with the reading means. The information recording medium comprises an address information of the homepage for allowing the information acquisition apparatus to access the homepage automatically when the reading of information is initiated after the information recording medium is set in the reading means. The address information being previously stored in and corresponding to the medium.

Claim 68 recites an information acquisition method for acquiring information by way of communicating with at least one information server through an Internet. The information acquisition method comprises the steps of a reading step, after setting an information recording medium onto information reading means, for automatically reading information stored in the set information recording medium by the information reading means, and an address-information acquisition step of acquiring address information automatically when the reading of information is initiated after the

information recording medium is set in the reading means. The address information indicates an address position of a homepage provided in the information server for transmitting related information related to the information recording medium, and corresponding to the information recording medium. The information acquisition method further comprises the step of a related-information acquisition step of accessing the homepage through the Internet based on the address information acquired by the address-information step so that related information related to the information recording medium can be acquired from the information server.

Claim 75 recites an information acquisition apparatus substantially similar to the information acquisition apparatus recited in claim 57 with the exception that the information acquisition apparatus of claim 75 comprises a reading unit, an address-information acquisition unit, and a related-information acquisition unit.

Claim 76 recites an information acquisition apparatus substantially similar to the information acquisition apparatus recited in claim 65 with the exception that the information acquisition apparatus of claim 76 comprises a reading unit, an address-information acquisition unit and a related-information acquisition unit.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a computer for a reproducing medium having a function for indicating related information stored in the reproducing medium. Specifically, the present invention provides a computer for a reproducing medium whereby related information of the reproducing medium is automatically indicated when the reproducing medium is set in the computer.

It is respectfully submitted that the prior art fails to disclose or suggest the elements of the presently pending claims, and therefore, fails to provide the advantages which are provided by the present invention.

Dunworth discloses an Internet organizer for accessing geographically and topically based information. Specifically, Dunworth discloses a search engine which searches a database according to geographic areas and characteristics. The computer system has a computer network and an organizer which has a database and a search engine. The search engine searches this database within the organizer which is accessed through a computer network in order to find information relating to a specific entry in the database according to a geographical area. Dunworth discloses a geography database, a local content database and a yellow pages database to allow the user to obtain information at different levels. The geography database allows the user to browse through different geographic areas of which are ordered hierarchically, while the local content database includes information about general goods and services available within a given geographic location, and the yellow pages database includes information about specific goods and services in the geographic location. Therefore, Dunworth provides the user with a means whereby information, which is associated with particular geographic locations, can be readily accessed.

Hidary discloses an enhanced video programming system and the method for incorporating and displaying retrieved integrated internet information segments. Figure 1 of Hidary discloses a computer based system for retrieving a video program along with embedded uniform resource locators (URLs), which direct the user's computer 16 to address locations, or websites, on the Internet 20 to retrieve related web pages. The

web pages correspond to the video presentation. The particular video programming can be delivered in analog, digital or digitally compressed formats (e.g., MPEG 2) via any transmission means, including satellite, cable, wire or television broadcast.

Applicants respectfully submit that each and every element recited within claims 57, 64, 65, 66, 68, 75 and 76 of the present application is neither disclosed nor suggested by Dunworth and/or Hidary, taken alone or in combination. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that the information acquisition apparatus and the information acquisition method as recited in the present application is clearly distinct from that which is illustrated in Dunworth and/or Hidary. Specifically, it is submitted that both Dunworth and Hidary fail to disclose or suggest a reading means/unit, an address-information acquisition means/unit and a related-information acquisition means/unit as recited in the claimed invention. Furthermore, it is submitted that the prior art fails to disclose or suggest the related method steps, as recited in the method claims.

The present invention discloses that an address information is retrieved based on the TOC information stored in the information recording medium to access the information server, wherein the TOC information contributes to retrieving the address information for obtaining the related-information related to the information recording medium since it is the information corresponding to the information recording medium itself.

In other words, it is possible to previously store the address information in the information recording medium itself, wherein the apparatus of the present invention can access the information server based on the previously stored address information. As such, it is not necessary to retrieve the address information based on the TOC

① information according to the present invention. Therefore, Applicants submit that the address information previously stored in the recording medium also is the information corresponding to the recording medium itself.

In contrast, Dunworth merely provides the user with a CD storing URL geographically classified. However, the CD as disclosed in Dunworth is merely a medium for providing the user's personal computer with the above-mentioned URL. In other words, the information stored in the CD of Dunworth is just mere information to be copied upon the user's personal computer. As such, it is submitted that Dunworth fails to disclose or suggest that the CD acquires the related information of the CD from the information server by itself as claimed in the present invention.

② In addition, Hidary merely discloses embedded URLs in the video signal to access servers on the Internet. The URLs are embedded within the blanking period of the video signal and are subsequently displayed on the television. However, Hidary fails to disclose or suggest a reading means after setting an information recording medium, for reading information stored in the set information recording medium, an address-information acquisition means for acquiring address information automatically when the reading of the information is initiated after the information recording medium is set in the reading means, and a related-information acquisition means for accessing the homepage through the Internet based on the address information acquired by the address-information acquisition means, and the method steps thereof as recited in the claimed invention.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that Dunworth and/or Hidary, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest each and every element recited within claims 57, 64, 65, 66, 68, 75 and 76 of the present application.

As for claims 59, 63, 72, 73 and 74, Applicants submit that each of these claims recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited prior art. In particular, each of these claims depends on claims 57 and 58, respectively, and therefore, incorporates each and every limitation recited within claims 57 and 58, respectively therein. Therefore, Applicants submit that each of claims 59, 63, 72, 73 and 74 also recite subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested by Dunworth and/or Hidary for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 57 and 58.

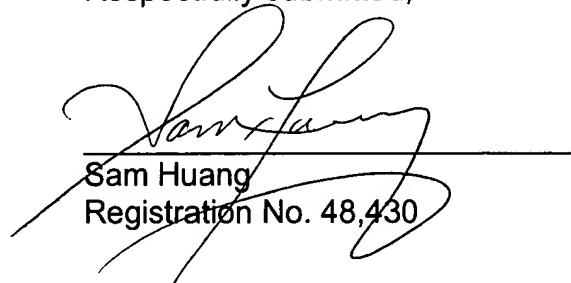
New claims 77 and 78 have been added to the present application. It is respectfully submitted that each of these new claims recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited prior art.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 57, 59, 63-66, 68 and 72-78 each recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited prior art. Applicants also submit that this subject matter is more than sufficient to render the claims non-obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, and therefore, respectfully request that claims 57, 59, 63-66, 68, 72-78 be found allowable and that this application be passed to issue.

If for any reason, the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact by telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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Petition for Extension of Time
Extra Claims Fee Transmittal

MARKED-UP VERSION OF ORIGINAL CLAIMS

57. (Amended) An information acquisition apparatus for communicating with at least one information server through [a communication network] an Internet, comprising:

reading means, after setting an information recording medium, for reading information stored in [an] said set information recording medium;

address-information acquisition means for acquiring address information [initiated automatically as a result of said information being read out by said reading means] automatically when said reading of information is initiated after said information recording medium is set in said reading means, said address information indicating an address position of a homepage provided in said information server for transmitting related information related to said information recording medium, and corresponding to [an address of said information server provided with related information related to] said information recording medium; and

related-information acquisition means for accessing said [information server] homepage through said Internet based on said address information acquired by said address-information acquisition means so that said related information related to said information recording medium can be acquired from said information server.

59. (Amended) The information acquisition apparatus according to [either one of claims] claim 57 [or 58], further comprising display control means for performing control to display said related information acquired by said related-information acquisition means.

63. (Amended) The information acquisition apparatus according to claim [61] 57, further comprising transmitting means for transmitting said information acquired by said reading means to [said] a communication network,

wherein said transmitting means transmits an identification information of said information recording medium acquired by said reading means into said information server.

64. (Amended) [The] An information acquisition apparatus [according to either one of claim 57 or 58, wherein said address-information acquisition means acquires address information when said information recording medium is set in said information acquisition apparatus] for communicating with at least one information server through an Internet, comprising:

reading means for reading information stored in said set information recording medium immediately when an information recording medium is set in said reading means;

address-information acquisition means for acquiring address information automatically when said reading of information is initiated after said information recording medium is set in said reading means, said address information indicating an address position of a homepage provided in said information server for transmitting related information related to said information recording medium, and corresponding to said information recording medium; and

related-information acquisition means for accessing said homepage through said Internet based on said address information acquired by said address-

information acquisition means so that said related information related to said information recording medium can be acquired from said information server.

65. (Amended) An information acquisition apparatus for communicating with at least one information server [in which] provided with related information related to an information recording medium [is incorporated into a database] through an Internet, comprising:

reading means for reading information stored in said information recording medium which stores at least one music after setting said information recording medium;

address-information acquisition means for acquiring address information [of a homepage used on said Internet initiated automatically as a result of said information being read out by said reading means] when said reading of information is initiated after said information recording medium is set in said reading means, said address information indicating an address position of a homepage provided in said information server for transmitting related information related to said information recording medium, and corresponding to said information recording medium; and

related-information acquisition means for accessing said [information server] homepage through said Internet based on said address information acquired by said address-information acquisition means, and thereby acquiring said related information from said information server [so that at least title information of said music can be acquired as said related information related to said information recording medium from said information server], wherein said related information includes at least one information of a list of music title, a lyric, a singer, a homepage of the singer, a

lyricist, a composer, players, a title of the information recording medium, a picture of jacket of the information recording medium, and a producer of the information recording medium.

66. (Amended) An information recording medium, in which recorded information is read out by reading means provided in an information acquisition apparatus for communicating with at least one information server including a homepage through [a communication network] an Internet, and which is removable with said reading means, comprising:

address-information of said homepage for allowing said information acquisition apparatus to access said [information server] homepage [initiated automatically as a result of said information being read out by a reading means] automatically when said reading of information is initiated after said information recording medium is set in said reading means, [and] said address information being previously stored in and corresponding to said medium.

68. (Amended) An information acquisition method for acquiring information by way of communicating with at least one information server through [a communication network] an Internet, comprising:

a reading step, after setting an information recording medium onto information reading means, for automatically reading information stored in [an] said set information recording medium by said information reading means;

an address-information acquisition step of acquiring address information [initiated] automatically [as a result of said information being read out by said reading step from said information recording medium] when said reading of information is

initiated after said information recording medium is set in said reading means, [on which] said address information indicating an address position of a homepage provided in said information server for transmitting related information related to said information recording medium, and corresponding to [an address of said information server is stored] said information recording medium; and

a related-information acquisition step of accessing said [information server] homepage through said Internet based on said address information acquired by said address-information acquisition step so that related information related to said information recording medium can be acquired from said information server.

72. (Amended) The information acquisition method according to claim 68, further comprising a transmitting step [of transmitting said information read out from said information recording medium to said communication network,]; wherein said transmitting step transmits an identification information of said information recording medium acquired by said reading step into said information server.

75. (Amended) An information acquisition apparatus for communicating with at least one information server through [a communication network] an Internet, comprising:

a reading unit, after setting an information recording medium, for reading information stored in [an] said set information recording medium;

an address-information acquisition unit for acquiring address information from said read out information [initiated] automatically [as a result of said information being read out by said reading means] when said reading of information is initiated after said information recording medium is set in said reading unit, said address information

indicating an address position of a homepage provided in said information server for transmitting related information related to said information recording medium, and corresponding to [an address of said information server provided with related information related to] said information recording medium; and

a related-information acquisition unit for accessing said [information server] homepage through said Internet based on said address information acquired by said address-information acquisition unit so that said related information related to said information recording medium can be acquired from said information server.

76. (Amended) An information acquisition apparatus for communicating with at least one information server [in which] provided with related information related to an information recording medium [is incorporated into a database] through an Internet, comprising:

a reading unit for reading information stored in said information recording medium which stores at least one music after setting said information recording medium;

an address-information acquisition unit for acquiring address information [of a homepage used on said Internet initiated automatically as a result of said information being read out by said reading unit] when said reading of information is initiated after said information recording medium is set in said reading unit, said address information indicating an address position of a homepage provided in said information server for transmitting related information related to said information recording medium, and corresponding to said information recording medium; and

a related-information acquisition unit for accessing said [information server] homepage through said Internet based on said address information acquired by said address-information acquisition unit, and thereby acquiring said related information from said information server [so that at least title information of said music can be acquired as said related information related to said information recording medium from said information server], wherein said related information includes at least one information of a list of music title, a lyric, a singer, a homepage of the singer, a lyricist, a composer, players, a title of the information recording medium, a picture of jacket of the information recording medium, and a producer of the information recording medium.

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